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## IN THE CLAIMS

Please consider the claims as follows:

1. Canceled.
2. (previously presented) A method for storing and accessing a plurality of programs in memory, said programs having various constant bit rates, comprising the steps of:
  - associating each program with a constant bit rate;
  - computing an extent size for each program from the respective constant bit rate associated with each program;
  - determining a quantity of packets associated with the extent size;
  - rounding the computed extent size up to a next whole packet of data;
  - identifying extents that require a null packet to be added to the extent;
  - inserting the null packet into the identified extents; and
  - storing the packets associated with each extent in said memory.
3. (previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein said memory is a disk drive array comprising a plurality of disk drives.
4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3 wherein said storing step further comprises the step of striping the extents across said disk drive array.
5. (previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the plurality of programs comprises a plurality of packetized data streams where each data stream has a different bit rate.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the packetized data stream comprise packets of encoded video information.

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7. (previously presented) The method of claim 2 wherein said step of computing the extent size further comprises the step of multiplying the constant bit rate associated with each program times a respective service interval.

8. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions, the plurality of instructions including instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the steps comprising:

- associating each program with a constant bit rate;
- computing an extent size for each program from the respective constant bit rate associated with each program;
- determining a quantity of packets associated with the extent size;
- rounding the computed extent size up to a next whole packet of data;
- identifying extents that require a null packet to be added to the extent;
- inserting the null packet into the identified extents; and
- storing the packets associated with each extent in said memory.

9. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 8 wherein said memory is a disk drive array comprising a plurality of disk drives.

10. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 9 wherein said storing step further comprises the step of striping the extents across said disk drive array.

11. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 8 wherein the plurality of programs comprises a plurality of packetized data streams where each data stream has a different bit rate.

12. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the packetized data stream comprise packets of encoded video information.

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13. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 8 wherein said step of computing the extent size further comprises the step of multiplying the constant bit rate associated with each program times a respective service interval.

14. (previously presented) Apparatus for storing and accessing a plurality of programs in memory, said programs having various constant bit rates, comprising:

means for associating each program with a constant bit rate and computing an extent size for each program from the respective constant bit rate associated with each program;

means for determining a quantity of packets associated with the extent size and rounding the computed extent size up to a next whole packet of data;

means for identifying extents that require a null packet to be added to the extent and inserting the null packet into the identified extents; and

means for storing the packets associated with each extent in said memory.

15. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein said storing means further comprises striping the extents across a said disk drive array.

16. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the plurality of programs comprises a plurality of packetized data streams where each data stream has a different bit rate.

17. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the packetized data stream comprise packets of encoded video information.

18. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein said means for computing the extent size further comprises multiplying the constant bit rate associated with each program multiplied by a respective service interval.